

What is claimed is:

1. A method for trading odd-lots of a security in an electronic market for trading securities, comprises
executing an odd-lot order with an eligible market participant; and
updating an odd-lot position of the eligible market participant to reflect the executed odd-lot order;
determining when the odd-lot position for the eligible market participant corresponds to a round lot size; and
decrementing the odd-lot position by the round lot size.
2. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
determining whether the received odd lot order is from a customer of the eligible market participant who is at an inside price; and
executing the received odd lot order against the eligible market participant irrespective of a time priority of the eligible market participant.
3. The method of claim 1 further comprising
determining if the odd-lot order is a marketable order.
4. The method of claim 1 wherein the electronic market maintains the displayable quote size for the eligible market maker for the security traded in the market.
5. The method of claim 4 wherein the displayable quote size for the market maker in the security is decremented by one round lot when decrementing position of the eligible market participant.

6. The method of claim 1 wherein if the odd lot order is not marketable when received from an order entry firm, it is returned to the order entry firm.

7. The method of claim 1 wherein the odd-lot positions are track for both sides of the market and are specified for the security traded by an eligible market participant and for each eligible market participant.

8. The method of claim 1 wherein the odd-lot execution manager is a separate mechanism for processing and executing orders distinct from normal units of trading.

9. The method of claim 1 wherein the odd lot order is part of a mixed lot.

10. The method of claim 1 wherein a round lot portion of the mixed lot is executed against the eligible market participant's displayed quote.

11. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
resetting the odd-lot position for the eligible market participant if the eligible market participant changes its corresponding displayed quote.

12. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
resetting the odd-lot position for the eligible market participant at the close of trading on the market.

13. An electronic market for trading securities, comprises:
 - an order execution/routing manager that executes non-directed orders against quoting market participant's quotes/orders based on a priority;
 - a process to determine whether an order is a mixed order or an odd lot order;
 - an odd-lot execution process that executes the odd-lot portion of the mixed order or the odd-lot order, comprising:
 - a process to execute an odd-lot order with an eligible market participant;
 - a process to update an odd-lot position of the eligible market participant to reflect the executed odd-lot order and determine when the odd-lot position for the eligible market participant corresponds to a round lot size; and
 - a process to decrement the odd-lot position by the round lot size.
14. The electronic market of claim 13 further comprising:
 - a process to determine if the odd-lot order is a marketable order.
15. The electronic market of claim 13 further comprising
 - a process to determine whether the received odd lot order is from a customer of the eligible market participant who is at an inside price; and
 - a process to execute the received odd lot order against the eligible market participant irrespective of a time priority of the eligible market participant.
16. The electronic market of claim 13 further comprising:
 - a process to reset the odd-lot position for the eligible market

participant at the close of trading on the market.

17. The electronic market of claim 13 wherein the odd lot order is part of a mixed lot.

18. The electronic market of claim 13, wherein a round lot portion of the mixed lot is executed against the eligible market participant's displayed quote.

19. The electronic market of claim 13 wherein
a process to suspend processing of odd-lot orders for the security if the process to determine whether an odd-lot exposure has been exceeds determines that all exposure limits for all market makers have been exceeded.

20. A computer program product residing on a computer readable medium for trading securities in an electronic market, comprises instructions for causing a computer to:
determine whether a received order is a mixed order or an odd lot order;
execute an odd-lot order with an eligible market participant;
update an odd-lot position of the eligible market participant to reflect the executed odd-lot order and determine when the odd-lot position for the eligible market participant corresponds to a round lot size; and
decrement the odd-lot position by the round lot size.

21. The computer program product of claim 20 further comprising instructions to cause the computer to:
determine whether the received odd lot order is from a customer of

the eligible market participant who is at an inside price; and
execute the received odd lot order against the eligible market
participant irrespective of a time priority of the eligible market
participant.

22. The computer program product of claim 20 further comprising
instructions to cause the computer to:
determining if the odd-lot order is a marketable order.